



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,198	04/01/2004	Christophe Forel	S1022.81106US00	7512
23628	7590	07/13/2005	EXAMINER	
WOLF GREENFIELD & SACKS, PC				MAI, LAM T
FEDERAL RESERVE PLAZA				
600 ATLANTIC AVENUE				
BOSTON, MA 02210-2211				
				ART UNIT
				PAPER NUMBER
				2819

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/816,198	FOREL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LAM T. MAI	2819	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-25 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 26 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 27-30 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/1/04.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Priority*

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### *Specification*

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalb et al (USP 5939938) and further in view of Colvin et al (USP 5307025).

Regarding claim 26, Kalb discloses an audio amplifier circuit that teaches a power amplifier comprising first (103) and second (104) operational amplifiers having respective first inputs receiving a reference voltage across a decoupling capacitor and respective outputs connected across a load and looped back to respective second

inputs, the second input of the first amplifier receiving through a coupling capacitor an input voltage to be amplified. Kalb fails to teach or suggest a separately charging the coupling and decoupling capacitors upon power-on from and off or standby state.

While, Colvin also discloses an audio amplifier that teaches separately charging the coupling and decoupling capacitors upon power-on from and off or standby state. Colvin fails to teach or suggest a power amplifier comprising first (103) and second (104) operational amplifiers having respective first inputs receiving a reference voltage across a decoupling capacitor and respective outputs connected across a load and looped back to respective second inputs, the second input of the first amplifier receiving through a coupling capacitor an input voltage to be amplified.

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Colvin's charging circuit into Kalb's audio amplifier circuit for more convenience in operation.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claim 1 is allowed over the prior art of record. The prior art of record, considered individually or in combination, fails to fairly teach or suggest the claimed amplifier comprising, among other limitations, a novel and unobvious limitation of "first elements for charging, upon power-on, the coupling capacitor to a first level set by a predetermined voltage at most equal to the reference voltage; and second elements separate from the first elements for charging, upon power-on, the decoupling capacitor to a second level set by said reference voltage, wherein the first elements comprise a

controllable resistive bridge." structurally and functionally interconnected with other limitations in the manner as cited in claims 2-13.

Claim 14 is allowed over the prior art of record. The prior art of record, considered individually or in combination, fails to fairly teach or suggest the claimed amplifier comprising, among other limitations, a novel and unobvious limitation of ".a first circuit configured to charge the coupling capacitor in response to a control signal; and a second circuit configured to charge the decoupling capacitor in response to the control signal." structurally and functionally interconnected with other limitations in the manner as cited in claims 15-25.

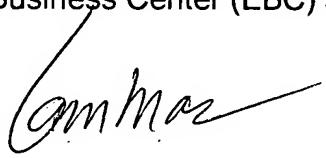
Claim 27-30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but they would be considered for allowable if they are rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The prior art fails to teach or suggest feature claim in the objected claims.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LAM T. MAI whose telephone number is (571)272-1807. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00 am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pascal J. Robert can be reached on (571) 272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lam T. Mai  
Art Unit 2819